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from the general revenues of a local body to the Elementary Education Fund under its control is raised by an amount equal to the fee income foregone. Under the Elementary Education Act, 1920, as it stands at present, the expenditure on the feeding and clothing of pupils in elementary schools cannot be legally debited to the Elementary Education Fund.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know when the hon. Minister proposes to amend the Elementary Education Act so that the local bodies may provide books and clothes for pupils of the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot say anything about it. The Act is under consideration, as hon. Members of the House are aware."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" With regard to the expenditure on this head, if the local boards and municipalities are prepared to meet half the cost, will the Government be pleased to pay the other half as grant ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. It is a hypothetical question."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know what the hon. Minister means by saying that he cannot say anything ? Does he mean that the suggestion has not reached the Government, or does he mean to say that he does not care to answer the question ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. That is cross-examining the hon. Minister. The question is not allowable."

*669 Q.—Please see page 193 infra.

Local Boards

Nominations to the District Board of Chingleput.

*670 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President of the District Board of Chingleput had suggested over a dozen names for choosing the nominated members to the three vacancies on the board ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Messrs. R. Srinivasan, M.L.C., A. Siva Raj, M.L.C., and L. C. Guruswami, M.L.C., were among the gentlemen suggested for nomination ;

(c) whether they consulted the Commissioner for Labour or the Collector of the district of Chingleput before they nominated one Mr. Chengam to the membership of the District Board ;

(d) from whom they got the suggestion that Mr. Chengam would be a deserving candidate for the District Board membership ;

(e) whether a lady nominated to the Chingleput District Board possesses any property within the district of Chingleput or has any connexion with that district in any manner, whether she is a resident of the district and if not, whether the Government will be pleased to state on what considerations the nomination was made ; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the three persons nominated to the District Board were so nominated on the suggestion and at the instance of Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, M.L.C. ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) & (*f*) The Government are not prepared to furnish the information.

(*e*) The lady appointed owns property in the Chingleput district and is a resident of Madras City.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether residential qualification is not necessary for members who want to enter local boards by election ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Residential qualification, I believe, is necessary for election."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" If so, may I know why the same qualification was not insisted upon in the case of nomination ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Chingleput District Board has its headquarters at Saidapet and the lady nominated is living in Madras. It was considered that that was sufficient qualification for being nominated."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether such persons who have been nominated can come by election if they reside in Madras ? "

Views of the Kurnool District Board on the construction of a road to Sreesailam.

* 671 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Kurnool District Board expressed any views regarding the construction of a road to Sreesailam ; and

(*b*) if so, what they are ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*a*) of question No. 306.

Municipal Councils

Complaints from the Vice-Chairman against the Chairman, Erode Municipality.

* 672 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chairman of the Erode Municipality has complained to the Government about the various illegal acts done by the Chairman of the said municipality, and if so, whether the Government will lay a copy of the complaints made from time to time on the table of the House ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any action on the complaints made by the Vice-Chairman, and if so, what action has been taken so far ?

A.—(*a*) Certain complaints were received from the Vice-Chairman of the Erode Municipal Council chiefly to the effect that the Chairman was preventing the Vice-Chairman from exercising authority in the Chairman's absence. The Government are not prepared to place them on the table.

(*b*) No action was taken as none was considered necessary.

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